



P.O. BOX 3806, BRIGHTON STATION, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14610

Vol. 79 No. 11

EDITORIAL..... by John Kellas

Hope you all had a good time at ROPEX'79. Mr. Gobie's U.S. Parcel Post 1913 was the Grand Award winner and therefore will be invited to compete in the World Series of Philately for the "Champion of Champions" title at the A.P.S. annual convention. About \$450.00 in doorprizes were awarded at the end of the ROPEX'79. Total visitation for the three day show was about 2500 philatelists. Sales of both the cacheted covers and souvenir cards were heavy during the show and are still be ordered through the mail. Several RPA members exhibited and some won a few awards! The show itself operated smoothly. The U.S.P.S. special ROPEX cancel was heavily used to cancel all sorts of items that had a stamp on them. Those that attended the ROPEX Awards Banquet not only had a great feast but a good time to boot! Larry Moriarty won the "Bluenose" Rug Raffle. There will be a final news release in the philatelic media announcing all of the ROPEX'79 winners. The ROPEX'79 Committee would like to thank all the RPA members who helped and supported ROPEX'79. Hopefully the next ROPEX will be in the Spring of 1981.



	Canada Post	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE U.S. MAIL
Nov. 1	U.S., Olympics- Highjump 31¢ international airmail stamp	
Nov. 4	U.S., Will Rogers 15¢ stamp	
Nov. 11	U.S., Vietnam Veterans special/definitive 15¢ stamp	
Nov. 15	CANADA, Flying Boats, two set-tenant pairs of 17¢ and 35¢ stamps, start of a new series	
Nov. 20	U.S., Wiley Post airmail, set-tenant pair of 25¢ airmail stamps	
Dec. 1	U.S., Olympics, 21¢ postal cards, "gymnast"	
Dec. 5	U.S., Olympics, "discus thrower, 22¢ aerogram	

## LONDON 1980

The SECOND BULLETIN published by the organizers of LONDON 1980, the international stamp exhibition will be ready in November. The Bulletin will provide all the up to date information on the organization of  
(continued on 2)

## NOVEMBER MEETINGS

Nov. 8 - This is an important meeting! The subject is "future ROPEX shows". There will also be a discussion of ROPEX'79. Please be there!

Nov. 22 - THANKSGIVING DAY  
NO MEETING \*\*\*\*\*

## NEW ISLAND IDENTITIES

The Portuguese Government has decided that the Azores and Madeira will issue postage stamps with their own identity starting January 1980. The name on the stamps will be Azores (Portugal) and Madeira (Portugal). The last time either of these territories issued postage stamps was in 1928.

the international stamp show and about hotel/air transportation packages. A copy of Bulletin 2 may be obtained from the Secretariat, LONDON 1980, Box 300, Danes Inn House, 265 Strand, London WC2R 1AF, England.

## BOOKS

How To Detect Damaged, Altered, And Repaired Stamps by Paul Schmid. Nov. release date. This book examines bogus philatelic material. Hard cover, well illustrated 105 pp., primarily about U.S. stamps. Palm Press, Box 373, Huntington, NY 11743 Cost \$14.95 plus \$1 postage & NYS tax.

Catalogue of United States Perfins, 500 pp. ill, loose leaf Ed. Make checks payable to Perfin Club. Perfin Club, Treasurer, 923 N. Anita, Gonzales, LA 70737. Cost \$25.00.

Sveriges-Katalogen 1979-80, 33rd Ed., 431 pp. ill, catalog of Swedish stamps. Order from Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, Birger Jarlsgatan 18 B, 11434 Stockholm, SWEDEN. Cost 45 Kronor.

U.S. Parcel Post - A Postal History by Henry M. Gobie. Hard cover, 250 pp. ill. Postal Publications, P.O.Box 431294 Miami, FL 33143 Cost \$15.00 postpaid.

## SHOWS

Nov. 8-11 NATIONAL 79- ASDA, New York Coliseum, 60th St. & Columbus Circle, NYC, NY. Hours Th + Fr 11-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Special show cancel. Admission \$3/day.

Nov. 10-11 Hamilton-Buffalo Stamp Ex., Strathbarton Mall, Crestwood Restaurant, 1565 Barton St. E., Hamilton, Ont. CANADA. Hours Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Admission Free.



# NEWS

U.S. Postal Service • ROCHESTER, NY

Rochester philatelists will be able to do their philatelic shopping at the General Post Office Facility- Henrietta on Wednesday evenings, between 6:00 pm.- 8:00 pm. starting 10/28/79 until Xmas (12/25/79). There will be two philatelic windows open to the collector. This is an effort by the Rochester Post Office to give the collector a special time & Day. This is an experiment and is dependent upon community response as to whether it will be repeated again next year or expanded. This experimental service is in addition to the regular philatelic window hours. Please take the opportunity and try out the philatelic windows Wednesday evenings.....



SUN.						SAT.
NOVEMBER PLANNER				USA- 1 HIGHJUMP 31¢ AIRMAIL STAMP	2	3
USA- 4 WILL ROGERS 15¢ STAMP	5 AAA VOTE ELECTION DAYS	6 16	7 RPA MEETING	8	9	10
HAMILTON// BUFFALO STAMP-SHOW NOV 10-11 VETERANS DAY	12 12	USA- 13 VIETNAM- VETERANS 15¢ STAMP	14 CANADA FLYING BOATS 2-17¢ 2-35¢	15	16	17
18	19	USA- 20 WILEY POST 25¢ AIRMAIL STAMPS (2)	21	22 THANKS GIVING DAY- HAPPY	23 TURKEY DAY!!	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## Grand jury action near in FDC case

Grand jury action was expected in late October or early November in a West Coast case involving allegedly counterfeit first day covers, possibly involving tens of thousands of FDCs.

Although an in-depth report on the alleged counterfeiting is being withheld at the request of postal investigators and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles, Linn's believes that the name of the person being investigated should be made known — in fairness to the many cover dealers around the country who are not involved.

The investigation by U.S. postal inspectors, now complete and in the hands of U.S. attorneys in Los Angeles, involves the possible application of counterfeit first day cancels to otherwise genuine stamps and covers by Jerry P. Mather of Redondo Beach, Calif.

These covers have reportedly been offered under the company names of Fiesta and La Fiesta on both wholesale and retail levels.

The alleged counterfeits reportedly involve FDCs from the 1950s through the 1970s, and are mostly common-grade U.S. material. Identification of the covers is complicated because they do not include any identification of source, and by the fact that genuine first day cancels may exist on similar covers.

Full details concerning identification of the suspected covers will be reported following court action and detailed disclosures from authoritative sources.

Reprint Linn's 11/5/79



## An Introduction to Postmark Collecting

by Curtis Brown, RPA

Have you ever thought about collecting postmarks? Probably not. Most people don't realize that there is a fascinating world within postmarks, as there is with stamps. Many philatelists might enjoy a small collection of postmarks along with their stamps. The postmarking world prefers not to be referred to as philately, but as commately.

The type of postmark collection to have is up to the individual collector.

The most common is general United States. This collector would try to obtain one postmark from each post office in the country. This is an ambitious project with well over thirty thousand post offices presently open.

Topicals are also popular. As in stamps, they are extremely varied and numerous. Subjects may include animals, names, countries, etc. One would then try to obtain all the postmarks within that subject area. For instance, if your topic was the country of Jordan, the states of Arkansas, Minnesota, Montana, New York and West Virginia have post offices with that name. Also there are Jordan Valley, Oregon, and Jordan Mines, Virginia. You would want to obtain these postmarks by one of the methods listed

later on in this article. Obviously, Jordan wouldn't give you much of a collection but countries would. Probably one of the most popular topicals is Presidents because there are so many towns named after these noteworthy officials. For example, twenty-eight states have towns named after President Lincoln.

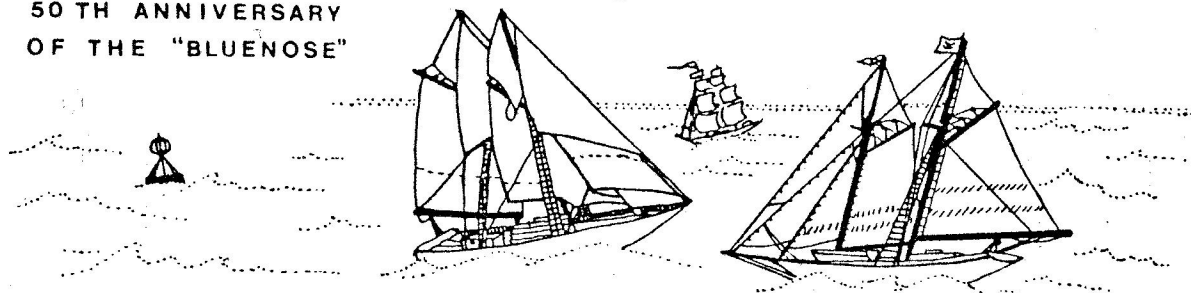
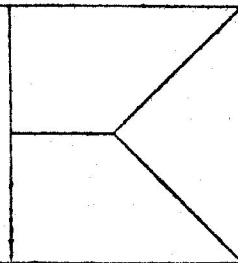
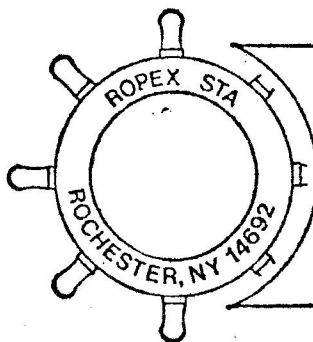
Two other subjects similar to topicals are dates and personality covers. The first is for collectors who like a certain date—often their own birthdate. The collector tries to collect postmarks canceled on that date. Personality covers are those postmarked with a name, such as Bill, Wyoming, sometimes with the autograph of a celebrity, like Bill Bixby or Billy Joel added to it.

Many other choices are also possible.

ROPEX-79



50 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "BLUENOSE"



AVAILABLE TO RPA MEMBERS, SEE THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE.

over



including the collecting of railroad postmarks, APOs, flag cancels, slogan cancels, postal meters, etc. Something for everyone!

One of the first decisions to make when you decide to collect postmarks is what size you will collect. The most common are tubafors (2" x 4"), 3" x 5" and round (cut without the killer bars). Three by five cards are the easiest to file, or you might wish to use an album of some sort. Personally, I have mine arranged first by state, then alphabetically by town name. I store them in small boxes.

There are quite a few sources for postmarks. The mail of your own family is a good place to start. Friends and relatives are always willing to save envelopes for you and many take an interest in the unusual hobby you have. Make sure they slit open the mail on the end with the return address so as not to ruin the postmark.

Always ask your own correspondents to try to mail their letters from smaller post offices, in the slot marked "for local cancel only" or, if there isn't one, in the "local" slot. Otherwise, depending on where they live, it will be canceled at the sectional mail facility. Most collectors don't like sectional center

postmarks because they are of large cities and are usually of a very poor quality.

Another way to get postmarks is to ask the secretary at a public utility to save the envelopes that come in when the bills are being paid.

You can also write to a postmaster and enclose a SASE or SA postal card and he will cancel it with the local postmark and send it along in the mailstream. I personally prefer postal cards because they are more economical.

Like everyone else, commatellists are organized. The major group, comparable to the APS, is the Post Mark Collectors Club (PMCC). The group's President is Jay Lounsbury of Forestville, Maryland. Each year the club holds an exhibition (postmarks, covers, etc.) and convention. The 18th annual meeting will be this August 9-12 at the Don CeSar Hotel in St. Petersburg, Florida. Information on the group is available from 3487 Firstenberger Road, Marion, OH 43302. A less active group is the American Postmark Society, PO Box 193, Port Huron, MI 48060. The Junior Philatelists of American (JPA) also has a postmark study group.



DOES THE RPA HAVE YOUR  
CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS?

?????



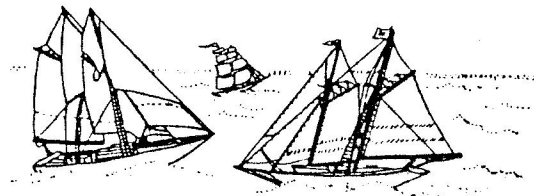
For those RPA members who were unable to visit the ROPEX '79, there are a limited number of cacheted show covers featuring the "Bluenose" and a souvenir "Bluenose" card still left. If you would like a set of covers, one for each day of the show - 19, 20, 21, the cost is \$1.25 plus an addressed stamped #10 envelope. The souvenir card costs \$1.25 mint or \$1.50 with the show cancel on it, these prices include postage. OR you can make your purchases at the RPA's Nov. 8th Meeting. There is a limited number left, so act soon!



## ROPEX - 79



THE BLUENOSE, often referred to as the "most beautiful stamp ever made", was issued by Canada on January 6, 1929. The design was from a photograph taken during the International Fisherman's Race off Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1926. The ships represented are the Canadian schooner "Bluenose" and the U.S. schooner Columbia. The Rochester Philatelic Association is proud to salute the 50th Anniversary of the issuance of the "Bluenose".



ROPEX is a presentation of the Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.

Please Note:



The RPA library is slowly being reorganized. Any RPA member who taken out a book, please return them by the next RPA Meeting. Books have been taken out to long a period of time. Also if you have suggestions for additional books to be included in the library, let an RPA Officer know about it.